

307 25X1

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC: Brandis Airfield

EVALUATION See below PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 10 July to 1 August 1953

25X1 DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 1 September 1953

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Brandis airfield between 22 July and 1 August 1953:

25X1 22 July. [REDACTED] a Po-2 was observed aloft. No more air activity was observed throughout the day.

25X1 23 July. [REDACTED] ground attack aircraft practiced flying in flight formation. There was rainy weather.

24 July. During the morning and afternoon, there was local and formation flying. One ground attack aircraft was observed towing a sleeve target.

25X1 26 July. There was no air activity.

25X1 27 July. [REDACTED] ground attack aircraft made local flights of about 10 minutes duration each. The runway was illuminated by lights about 100 meters apart. Three searchlights were in operation.

25X1 28 July. [REDACTED] several MiG-15s crossed over the field. [REDACTED] 11 ground attack aircraft made local flights and executed dives. [REDACTED] there was night flying, but it was discontinued earlier than on other nights, apparently because of bad weather.

25X1 29 July. During the morning, 2 Po-2s practiced local flying. An Il-10 took off [REDACTED]

25X1 30 July. During the morning and afternoon, local flights and dives were made by ground attack aircraft.

25X1 31 July and 1 August. No air activity was observed.

[REDACTED] since about early July, ground attack pilots maintained a lower status of training than previously. He assumed therefore, that replacements not fully trained had newly been assigned to the unit. [REDACTED] 25X1

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2. Since mid-July 1953, tents have been observed in the woods northwest of the airfield, west of the road to Machern. A line, probably a light wire, was being laid from the field to the tent camp. The section of the road which extends along the field border was again blocked as in the preceding year. From this, [] parachute training would probably be conducted there. [] Trucks [] occupied by recruits, wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were observed entering and leaving the field.

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3. The following observations were made at the field between 15 and 26 July:

15 July. [] about 30 Li-2s towing cargo gliders took off from the field and headed toward the northeast. During the late morning hours and again in the afternoon, Il-10s and Po-2s were observed aloft.

16 July. [] 10 Li-2s took off heading northeast. After their departure, no twin-engine aircraft were observed at the field. [] In the afternoon, individual and formation flights were made by ground attack aircraft. Swept-back jet fighters were repeatedly observed over the field.

18 July. [] two individual Il-10s were observed aloft. There was a closed ceiling and rain.

19 July. No air activity was observed. The degree of cloudiness changed and there were intermittent rain showers.

30 July. During the morning, 1 Po-2 and 1 Li-2 flew over the field. [] individual Li-2s were observed aloft.

21 July. No aircraft were observed aloft except for a Po-2 which crossed over the field []

22 July. [] a Il-10 was observed aloft. The degree of cloudiness changed. In the afternoon, swept-back jet fighters repeatedly flew over the field.

23 July. [] 6 Il-10s flew over the field. There was a closed ceiling. Subsequently, 3 additional Il-10s were observed over the field. [] 17 Il-10s were counted on the ground, while 2 additional aircraft were observed aloft.

24 July. [] Il-10s practiced flying individually and in formations.

25 July. [] no aircraft were observed at the field. All hangars were closed except for one. [] two Il-10s took off and headed west.

26 July. No air activity was observed throughout the day. []

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25X1A 1. [] Comment. Brandis airfield is occupied by a ground attack regiment and is equipped with Il-10s. In addition to the usual training activity in ground attack planes, young pilots are probably being trained in Po-2s.

25X25X1A 2. [] Comment. [] jumps from captive balloons over Brandis airfield in September 1952. He probably believes that this activity will be resumed.

25X1A 3. [] Comment. It is possible that the Il-10s observed departing from the field belonged to a transport unit, which arrived from outside of East Germany and was stationed at Brandis between 19 June and 15 July 1953 for air transport and air landing exercises.

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